

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAIGON 02775 130601Z

21

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

AID-05 /061 W

----- 024762

P 130145Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3564

INFO COMUSSAG NKP THAILAND PRIORITY

CINCPAC HONOLULU PRIORITY

VOMIPAC HONOLULU PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 2775

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION AM EMB SAIGON IMMEDIATE USDAO SAIGON
IMMEDIATE 12 MAR 75 REPEATED:

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L NHA TRANG 0153

DAO FOR AOSOP/IX-IS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PINT MILI VS

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON THE MILITARY SITUATION IN MR-2

1. HEAVY FIGHTING CONTINUED IN REGION 2 ON MARCH 11 AND THE MORNING
OF MARCH 12. THE ONLY NEW COMMUNIST INITIATIVE OCCURRED IN
BINH DINH, WHERE THE COMMUNISTS INTERDICTED QL-1 BETWEEN AN NHON
DISTRICT TOWN AND PHU CAT AIRBASE.

2. IN BINH DINH, THE COMMUNISTS HAD ATTACKED AND EFFECTIVELY
CLOSED QL-1 2 KM NORTH OF AN NHON DISTRICT TOWN AS OF 120830
HRS. TWO BRIDGES IN THAT AREA WERE DESTROYED AND FIGHTING CONTINUED
THERE AS OF 121420 HRS. IN BINH KHE DISTRICT, MR-2 NHA TRANG
HQS REPORTED THAT THERE WERE TWO GROUND CONTACTS ON MARCH 11,
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAIGON 02775 130601Z

WHICH RESULTED IN 59 COMMUNIST KILLED AND 10 WEAPONS

SEIZED BY THE GVN AS AGAINST GVN LOSSES OF 5 KIA, 9 WIA, 3 MIA, AND ONE APC DESTROYED. REPORTEDLY 8 VNAF AIRSTRIKES AGAINST COMMUNIST POSITIONS IN BINH KHE AND PHU MY KILLED 120 COMMUNISTS AND DESTROYED 24 TRUCKS. SCATTERED FIGHTING PERSISTED IN BINH DINH'S NORTHERN DISTRICTS.

3. IN PLEIKU ON MARCH 11, EASTERN LE TRUNG DISTRICT WAS APPARENTLY RELATIVELY QUIET; HOWEVER, THE 42ND RANGER BN WHILE ON A SEARCH NEAR BRIDGE 31 FOUND 32 COMMUNIST BODIES ALONG WITH 3 MACHINE GUNS AND 12 AKS AT BR 093551. THE COMMUNISTS LAUNCHED AN ATTACK AGAINST THE 67TH RANGER BN AND THE 4TH CO OF THE 205TH RF BN 5 KM WEST NORTHWEST OF THANH AN AT 111840 HRS. AT 1930 HRS, RADIO CONTACT WITH THE 4TH CO WAS LOST. THE COMMUNIST ALSO FIRED ORDNANCE INTO THANH AN SUBSECTOR HQS. AND, BOTH ON MARCH 11 AND 12, THE COMMUNISTS ROCKETED CU HANH (PLEIKU) AIRFIELD AND II CORPS HQS IN PLEIKU CITY; THE ROCKETS AT CU HANH CAUSED SOME DAMAGE WHILE THE ROCKETS AT II CORPS KILLED ONE SOLDIER AND WOUNDED 2 OTHERS.

4. THE VNAF FLEW 82 AIR SORTIES AGAINST COMMUNIST POSITIONS IN BAN ME THUOT ON MARCH 11. REPORTEDLY THE AIR STRIKES KNOCKED OUT 9 TANKS AND ABOUT A DOZEN AA GUNS AND MORTARS, AND KILLED SOME 80 COMMUNIST TROOPS. DOWNTOWN BMT IS NOW APPARENTLY UNDER NVA CONTROL, BUT THE 45TH ARVN REGT IS EXPECTED TO LAND NEAR BMT TODAY (MARCH 12) AND WILL MOVE TOWARD THE CITY. 2 SOLDIERS OF THE 320TH NVA DIV AND 1 CADRE OF THE B-3 FRONT STAFF HAVE BEEN CAPTURED BY GVN FORCES NEAR BMT. NVA SOLDIERS IN BMT REPORTEDLY POSSESS FLAME THROWERS.

5. IN QUANG DUC ON MARCH 11, GVN FORCES WERE APPARENTLY CONTAINING THE COMMUNIST THRUST AGAINST KIEN DUC SUBSECTOR HQS. THE GVN HAS CLEARED NHON CO AIRFIELD EAST OF KIEN DUC DISTRICT TOWN OF THE COMMUNIST FORCES WHICH ATTACKED IT. REPORTEDLY THE COMMUNIST UNITS IN KIEN DUC ARE SUPPORTED BY TANKS. PROV REP QUANG DUC REPORTS THAT AS OF 121425 HRS, KIEN DUC DISTRICT WAS QUIET.

6. IN KHANH DUONG DISTRICT IN KHANH HOA, THE COMMUNISTS BLEW UP BRIDGE 29 (BQ 472162) ON MARCH 11. THERE WERE NO OTHER SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE SITUATION IN NORTHERN KHANH
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SAIGON 02775 130601Z

DUONG.

7. NO SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE SITUATION IN PHU BON HAVE BEEN REPORTED.

8. THE FIGHTING IN BINH DINH, PHU BON, DARLAC, AND QUANG DUC HAS ALREADY GENERATED A SIZABLE REFUGEE PROBLEM FOR THE GVN.

9. LATE NEWS: UNCONFIRMED REPORTS INDICATE THAT BUON HO
SUBSECTOR HAS COME UNDER COMMUNIST ATTACK (IT IS UNCLEAR WHETHER
THIS REFERS TO AN ABF OR TO A GROUND ATTACK) AND THAT THE 2ND
BN OF THE 45TH ARVN REGT HAS ARRIVED IN BUON HO DISTRICT TOWN.
SPEAR
UNQUOTE
LEHMANN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMBAT OPERATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SAIGON02775
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750087-0625
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750354/aaaabwhj.tel
Line Count: 122
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 JUL 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <20 NOV 2003 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UPDATE ON THE MILITARY SITUATION IN MR-2
TAGS: MILI, VS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006